

COMPRESSING OF COTTON.

Houston's Record of Nearly Three Thousand Bales to Date.

THE FLOUR AND WHEAT MARKETS.

Fillesbury Predicts Higher Prices. Roasted Coffee Contest—Profit at the Present Prices—Notes.

Office of the Post, Houston, Friday, January 22.

While Houston's gross receipts of cotton have been larger so far this season than for any similar period in previous years, with one exception, yet the most wonderful increase has been in the wagon receipts and in the amount compressed here. The following table shows the figures to date, the comparison with last year, and the per cent increase:

This Year Per cent Increase
Year Past
Gross receipts..... 1,323,205 856,727 22
Wagon receipts..... 473,192 293,977 61
Compressed..... 473,192 293,977 61
Wagon receipts..... 8,300 5,171 34

Cotton that is brought here to be compressed is of far more value to the city than that merely passing through en route to foreign ports consequently this increase is considered a very flattering one. Houston has had six compresses in active work this season, as follows: Two for the Imperial Corporation, one for W. D. Cleveland & Co., two for the Union Compress and Warehouse company, and one for the Standard Compress company. They have already compressed within less than five months nearly as much cotton as was compressed here the entire twelve months of last season, when the total was 200,000 bales. This is a splendid tribute to the superior compressing facilities furnished by the presses here. For the increase comes at a time when there are compresses at many interior points, thus making a greater competition in this business.

The wonderful increase in wagon receipts of cotton is also an interesting feature, and indicates a large share of the staple in Harris and surrounding counties. This has given Houston and Harris county miners a big business throughout the season, and has also brought a great deal of trade to this city.

A British View of Cotton.

Hugh F. McIlroy of New Orleans has the following to say of cotton in his market letter of January 21:—Advances from the interior continue all that has been said of the small amount remaining on hand at unopened towns. A general trend Bryan, Texas, here, indicates that the stock there is not over 5,000 bales, against 4,000 last year. Scrubville, Miss., where 12,000 bales were last year, now has offers of almost New York prices paid to draw out. The mills there are continuing to pay small advances and every new demand for their cotton is met with another, but with which the market has been threatened recently has failed to be matched by the players in the market. Attention has already been called to the predominance of cotton and not wool in the cotton in American stores.

As the business has caused a speculative embargo to be placed upon Indian cotton, spinners who use such cotton are forced to turn to this country for their supply.

The nearest equivalents of cotton in our style of strictly good to low grade cotton are, however, to be found in India.

INDIA.—Cotton—Grain and seed, 70¢ to 75¢ per barrel; cotton seed, 10¢ per barrel; cotton oil, 15¢ per barrel.

CHINA.—Cotton—Grain and seed, 70¢ to 75¢ per barrel; cotton oil, 15¢ per barrel.

AFGHANISTAN.—Cotton—Grain, 60¢ per barrel; cotton oil, 15¢ per barrel.

EGYPT.—Cotton—Grain and seed, 70¢ to 75¢ per barrel; cotton oil, 15¢ per barrel.

PERU.—Cotton—Grain and seed, 70¢ to 75¢ per barrel; cotton oil, 15¢ per barrel.

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